

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 03978 181621Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 IO-13 HA-05 ARA-10 MCT-01 OPR-02 A-01
CCO-00 SY-05 /113 W
-----019328 181627Z /50

P R 181413Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3657
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 3978

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, AEMR, GH, CG
SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION -- INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH SELECTED
AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS

REF: STATE 125192

1. I MET WITH GHANA'S COMMISSIONER (MINISTER) FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS COL. R.J.A. FELLI MORNING OF MAY 17 AND MADE POINTS
REFTEL. I ALSO BRIEFED HIM ON SITUATION IN SHABA AS WE
GLIMPSE IT THROUGH CABLE TRAFFIC, STRESSING THAT EVENTS
ARE CONFUSED AND CLOUDY.

2. FELLI SAID HE APPRECIATES USG VIEWS AND THANKED ME FOR
KEEPING HIM POSTED. HE MENTIONED BBC SAID ON MAY 17 THAT
CUBANS ARE PROBABLY NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INVASION; HE HIMSELF
DOUBTED THAT CUBANS ARE DIRECTLY INVOLVED. NOTING THAT THE
CELEBRATED "EX-KATANGA GENDARMES" MUST NOW BE PUSHING FORTY,
FELLI EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM THAT THEY ARE REALLY
SPEAR-HEADING THE ATTACK. RE HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEW OF CONFLICT,
HE SAID THAT GHANA STRONGLY CONDEMNS INVASION AND SUPPORTS
PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. ASKED WHAT OAU IS LIKELY
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TO DO, HE SAID IT WOULD ALSO CONDEMN ATTACK BUT IMPLIED NO REAL
OAU ACTION IS LIKELY SINCE IT NEEDS TIME TO COORDINATE VIEWS
OF MEMBER STATES.

3. COMMENT: GHANA SUPPORTS ZAIRE BUT WANTS TO STAY ON GOOD
TERMS WITH ANGOLA AS WELL. GOG DOES NOT KNOW DEGREE, IF ANY,
TO WHICH LUANDA IS ACTUALLY DIRECTING INVASION. IN ABSENCE

OF EASILY PERCEIVED VILLAIN, GHANA IS LIKELY EITHER TO REMAIN
SILENT OR AT MOST TO REAFFIRM ITS SUPPORT FOR OAU AND
PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. FELLI SAID HE WOULD
WELCOME OUR REMAINING IN CLOSE TOUCH ON THIS SUBJECT AND
WE AGREED TO DO SO.
SMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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